



About the Program



The I BOAT NJ Program seeks to benefit the boating public by promoting, improving and enhancing the marine industry in New Jersey through grant funding financed by the FY 2003 vessel registration fee increase.

I BOAT NJ projects must be beneficial to the general boating public and must be directed at planning, developing, constructing, improving, advocating, or otherwise assisting the boating and marine trade industry in New Jersey. Grant funding will be awarded based upon the number of qualified applicants and the amount of funds available in a given fiscal year.

Upon the selection of a project for program funding, a Memorandum of Agreement will be necessary. Applicants may be eligible for project funding in categories that include, but are not limited to:

- > **Development/Redevelopment** (construction of marine facilities beneficial to the general boating public, marina development/rehabilitation, technology development and upgrades,...)
- > **Safety** (best management practices, boating safety programs and wake mitigation,...)
- > **Environmental Enhancement** (pollution prevention, sediment reduction and scientific studies,...)
- > **Maritime/Marine Trade Advocacy** (industry promotion and tourism, marine trades development and public outreach,...)
- > **Education** (boating, maritime, and/or industry education, educational forums, harbor and coastal education programs,...)
- > **Miscellaneous** (GIS mapping, matching funds for federal aid and transient boating services,...)

Timeline

The Office of Maritime Resources is currently accepting Expressions of Interest forms (part one of a two part competitive process) for the first I BOAT NJ grant cycle. The grant cycle will close January 24, 2005, and a new grant cycle will begin February 1, 2005.

Criteria

A selection committee will review all applications. I BOAT NJ projects will be considered for grant funding based on the following criteria :

- > Applicability to the boating community at large
- > Benefits to the local community
- > Community involvement/local support/partnership



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF MARITIME RESOURCES

GOVERNOR JAMES E. MCGREEVEY

COMMISSIONER JACK LETTIERE

- > Creative planning and concepts
- > Economic costs/benefits
- > Feasibility
- > Merit
- > Prior design/level of effort
- > Extent to which the project fulfills the I BOAT NJ Program mission.

Selected projects will be required to conform to all state laws. Most grants will be subject to a hard match requirement. A hard match is an actual monetary contribution toward the project. Applicants must demonstrate:

- > A minimum 10 percent hard match for projects that cost less than \$1 million.
- > A minimum 20 percent hard match for projects that cost in excess of \$1 million.

Projects that may be eligible for other federal, state, or local specific grant programs are expected to first apply for funds from such grant programs, as applicable, for example, the Clean Vessel Act Program.

Guidelines

- > Projects shall be maritime, marine or marine trade related in nature and must promote, improve, and enhance the marine industry in NJ for the benefit of the **general boating public**.
- > “Non-port” projects within port districts are eligible to apply.
- > Projects should be completed within three years.
- > Preference will be given to projects greater than \$3,000, however, applications of less than \$3,000 will still be considered.
- > Budget estimates should include: amount of grant funds requested, overall project costs, line-item estimates, and source(s) of additional funding.
- > A State Licensed Professional Engineer must approve all construction plans.
- > Private entities may apply for I BOAT NJ funding so long as the project is open to the public for a non-profit purpose. Restrictions may apply, and a legal interpretation may be required.